



Handbell Industry Council (HIC) was approached by Malmark calling for research and then to issue a document regarding ringing safely in COVID-19 times. Information from several panel discussions that have discussed what group singing will/will not be in the future was provided. It was sobering.

Additional comments from Malmark:

- We can ring while wearing a mask.
- Ringers may be separated by six feet.
- Gloves and table coverings can be washed after every rehearsal.
- Performance may not be possible for now but preparation of music can be accomplished along with the many social and emotional benefits.
- Nylon handles of handbells, mallet shafts and handchime tube may be disinfected with a disposable wipe after rehearsal.

HIC has compiled several documents that can serve as a guideline to churches, schools, and ringing ensembles when they are ready to ring again. Ideas to include singing musicians are also included.

- QUICK GUIDE – a synopsis prepared by Malmark
- HANDBELLS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC – Linnette Rodriguez-Figueroa, PhD
- A DIRECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE – Amy Maakestad
- RESOURCES FOR RINGING – Sondra Tucker

The Handbell Industry Council is grateful to authors/researchers/contributors. A special “thank you” to Linnette Rodriguez-Figueroa (PhD) who has provided scientific research and guidelines to support the HIC project.

It is hoped these guidelines will encourage ringers and directors to reach out and provide an alternative to the singing community. Let's get those bells out of the closets. You are encouraged to forward questions and comments to COVID19@HandbellIndustryCouncil.org

Visit HandbellIndustryCouncil.org for links to the “Ringing Handbells and Handchimes Safely in COVID19 Times” Quick Guide and research.

Ring safely. Be safe. Stay Healthy. We will ring together again.

The Handbell Industry Council Executive Team

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